

Summer 1986

## WVRHC Newsletter, Summer 1986

West Virginia & Regional History Center

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# West Virginia and Regional History Collection NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2 No. 2

West Virginia University Library

Summer 1986



Hondius-Blaeu imprint of Smith's Map of Virginia, 1630.

## Dutch Engraving of Smith's 'Map of Virginia' Acquired by Collection

While the name of Captain John Smith is indelibly engraved in the annals of American civilization, romanticized legends of Indian battles and love affairs have decidedly eclipsed Smith's more historically significant accomplishments in fame. Admittedly a swashbuckler, history has proven Captain Smith to have been a resourceful survivalist, a skilled diplomat, an able historian and clearly the most effective of Jamestown Colony's early leaders. Moreover, Captain Smith the car-

tographer literally put the New World on the map. The Regional History Collection's recently acquired Hondius-Blaeu map is a case in point.

A soldier of fortune fresh from adventures throughout Europe and the Near East, in 1606 Smith was charged by the London Council with conducting a thorough exploration of mid-Atlantic America, largely owing to lingering hopes of discovering an inland water passage to the Orient. Appointed as one of the Virginia Company's seven colonial councillors, Smith set sail for America with a group of 104 men in December of that year. Reaching the new world in the spring, the party founded the colony of

West Virginia and Regional History Collection NEWS-LETTER. A triannual publication of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection at the West Virginia University Library, Colson Hall, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506. (304) 293-3536.

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Editor: John Cuthbert



*continued*

## *Dutch Engraving*

Jamestown on 13 May 1607.

Captain Smith conducted a series of explorations over the ensuing months. While no transcontinental waterway was found, his various expeditions yielded a wealth of natural observations and cartographic data. Smith's charts and theories circulated about England for some time in manuscript before an engraving of his composite map of Virginia was published at Oxford in 1612. Issued on a small hand press by the University Printer, *Smith's Map of Virginia* provided the world with its first glimpse of the Chesapeake Bay region. Plotting the coastline, the course of rivers and major topographical features with a surprising degree of accuracy, Smith's map also afforded a meticulous and unique record of native American settlements located throughout the area.

Six years after the appearance of the modest Oxford edition, the *Map of Virginia* was the subject of a fine engraving by the Dutch cartographer Jodocus Hondius. The Hondius plate was purchased by Amsterdam printer Willem G. Blaeu in 1629, and by virtue of its inclusion in Blaeu's famed *Atlas Appendix* of 1630, the map circulated throughout the world. Considered one of the most influential, and most beautiful maps of Virginia and the Chesapeake, the Hondius-Blaeu map established a broad cartographic conception of Virginia which endured throughout Europe for nearly a century.

As for Captain John Smith, the thoroughness of his mid-Atlantic explorations led to a commission in 1614 by the Plymouth Company to lay the groundwork for a new plantation in the north, in the vicinity of Cape Cod Bay. The result was Smith's second major cartographic achievement, a map of "New England" as Smith christened the area. Published in 1616 along with a book by Smith describing the area, this map played a significant role in the establishment of Plymouth Colony in 1620.

Smith subsequently retired to England and set to work on a series of swaggering and invaluable histories of the New World that would effectively cultivate the swashbuckling image that the great adventurer still enjoys.

## West Virginia Newspaper Project Enters Third Phase

In May, the Regional History Collection was pleased to learn that the National Endowment for the Humanities had awarded funding for the third phase of the West Virginia Newspaper Project. Readers may recall that the goal of the project, which is part of the nationwide United States Newspaper Program, is to locate, preserve and make available for research all newspapers ever published within the state's borders.



*Newspaper office in Buckhannon, West Virginia, ca.1890.*

The Project began in 1983 with a planning phase designed to publicize the project and to assemble a checklist of extant newspapers in libraries, newspaper offices, historical agencies and in other public and private collections across the state. Phase II involved the preparation of an in-depth inventory and the entry of catalog information into the nationwide Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) database.

Phases I and II were tremendously successful, leading to the discovery of countless titles and issues long thought to be lost, such as a complete run of the *Western Courier* (Charleston) 1822-1825 which turned up in private hands.

Phase III will enable the Regional History Collection to work towards insuring the long-term preservation and accessibility of the project's discoveries. This will be accomplished chiefly through the implementation of a comprehensive preservation microfilming program and the publication of a guide to West Virginia newspapers.

In August, Project staff began traveling around the state to borrow newspapers that are in need of filming. It is anticipated that nearly 500 bound volumes will be microfilmed over the next 17 months. During this time staff members earnestly hope that additional newspapers will surface. Although issues of some 1100 different titles have been located, research has proven the past existence of over 500 additional newspapers for which no issues are currently known to have survived.



# GENEALOGY AT THE WEST VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL HISTORY COLLECTION

Harold M. Forbes



*Colson Hall, home of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection.*

## INTRODUCTION

Ever since the so-called "identity crisis" gripped American society in the 1960s, more and more people have begun looking to the past for meaning and continuity in their lives. The study of genealogy has naturally flourished under these conditions. In addition to finding identity and perspective, those who delve into family history generally find self-esteem and direction as well, qualities that are precious in our free-wheeling and fast-paced age. While some researchers find satisfaction in discerning the identity of grandparents and great-grandparents, others lay bare the roots of family trees which reach back into the distant past, as far as the written record allows.

To get the facts of family history, genealogists draw upon a vast array of historical documents which are preserved in repositories like the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. Sometimes public archives and manuscripts are used, but often the unpublished works of other local historians and genealogists provide the answers. Either way, the study of genealogy is as closely

linked to primary sources as is the study of "academic" history. Both disciplines use the same collections and share the results of painstaking efforts. The history professor and genealogist are colleagues from our perspective, that of the archivist. Both are constituents and provide vital support for what we do, and the interests of both are kept in mind when new acquisitions are considered and finding aids prepared.

Genealogists form the mainstay of the West Virginia and Regional History Association which endeavors to keep the Collection's diverse constituency informed. A modest fee of \$10.00 supports a triannual newsletter that keeps members abreast of current developments at the Regional History Collection and announces the availability of new collections and finding aids. Membership also entitles the bearer to a variety of special research brochures as well as discounts on published guides and historical studies produced at the Collection. All with an interest in West Virginia history are urged to join.



The Robert C. Byrd reading room.

## USING THE WEST VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL HISTORY COLLECTION

The resources of the Regional History Collection, including manuscripts, archives, books, pamphlets, journals, newspapers, sound recordings, and maps, are available to all researchers in the Collection's Colson Hall facility on the West Virginia University campus. The Regional History Collection is not able to conduct research for the Collection's many users, yet staff members are available to help researchers locate the resources they need. As our reference desk is always manned we can offer the greatest degree of assistance to those who are able to visit the Collection in person. While the reference staff must stop short of actually doing the work for our visitors, their familiarity with the Collection's resources and with genealogical research strategies can be extremely helpful.

Assistance to correspondents is generally limited to information regarding the Collection's holdings and advice as to how users may gain access to the information they need *in absentia*. Generally, we recommend that correspondents select between the options of borrowing the materials they need through the nationwide interlibrary loan system, or hiring a local researcher. For those who choose the latter option, we maintain a list of names and addresses of people who will perform genealogical searches for a fee. The list also includes the names of several organizations and publications which provide useful services for those involved in genealogical research. Correspondents who elect to do their own research may borrow a total of four books or reels of film at a time, though one may file as many additional interlibrary loan requests as are needed to obtain a larger number of items. Arrangements for such loans may be made through interlibrary loan departments which exist in public libraries across the country. Interlibrary loan librarians are requested to send standard interlibrary loan request forms with full bibliographic information to the Interlibrary Loan Service, West Virginia and Regional History Collection, Colson Hall, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506. Each request must be accompanied by a statement of the borrower's willingness to pay a fee of \$1.00 if he or she is a West Virginia resident, or \$3.00 if a resident of another state.

### Getting Started in Genealogical Research

The genealogist should approach research at a specialized library collection with as much knowledge of research techniques and types of sources as possible. He or she should also be aware that special rules govern the use, copying, and publication of historical materials. Those

researchers without previous knowledge or training in this type of investigation would find it helpful to consult such introductory manuals as the following:

Gilbert H. Doane and James B. Bell. *Searching for Your Ancestors: The How and Why of Genealogy*. 5th ed. Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1980.

Val D. Greenwood. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1977.

*Genealogical Research: Methods and Sources*. Editors, Milton Rubincam, Jean Stephenson, and Kenn Stryker-Rodda. Washington, American Society of Genealogists, 1971.

A knowledge of the state's history and geography is also very useful for the genealogical researcher. The following sources offer brief but informative introductions to the history and geography of West Virginia counties and regions:

E. Lee North. *The 55 West Virginias: A Guide to the State's Counties*. Morgantown, West Virginia University Press, 1985.

Writers' Program. West Virginia. *West Virginia, A Guide to the Mountain State*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1941. Reprinted: Richwood, W. Va., 1974; St. Clair Shores, Mich., 1974.

Good comprehensive surveys of the state's history include those by Charles H. Ambler, James Morton Callahan, Phil M. Conley, Oscar D. Lambert, and Otis K. Rice.

Finally, the genealogical researcher should become familiar with the available guides to genealogical research into West Virginia records. For detailed guidance on the scope and usefulness of genealogical resources located in many West Virginia and out-of-state repositories, the following guides should be consulted:

Helen S. Stinson. *A Handbook for Genealogical Research in West Virginia*. Dallas, Texas, H.S. Stinson, 1981.

*The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*. Edited by Arlene Eakle and Johni Cerny. Salt Lake City, Utah, Ancestry Publishing Co., 1984.

*Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives*. Washington, D.C., National Archives and Records Service, 1982.

George B. Everton, Sr. *The Handy Book for Genealogists*. 7th ed. Logan, Utah, Everton Publishers, 1981.





## PRINTED GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

### State and Local Histories

Many of the multi-volume state histories provide extensive coverage of the history and genealogy of selected West Virginia families. Some of the most notable works in this category include those by Bernard Lee Butcher (3 vols., 1912), Thomas C. Miller (3 vols., 1913), James Morton Callahan (3 vols., 1923), Morris P. Shawkey (5 vols., 1928), and Oscar D. Lambert (3 vols., 1958). Important also are the 13 volumes, covering 28 counties, of *Hardesty's Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia, Illustrated* (1883-1884; reprinted in 8 volumes by Jim Comstock, Richwood, W. Va., 1973-1974).

A wide assortment of biographical compilations regarding West Virginians of state or local prominence provide sources for individual portraits and family history. Examples of these works bear such titles as *Prominent Men of West Virginia*; *West Virginia Women*; *Progressive West Virginians*; *Outstanding West Virginians*; *West Virginians, A Work of Biography*, and numerous editions of *Who's Who in West Virginia*. A significant compilation of biographical and historical data is:

*The West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia*. Richwood, W. Va., Edited and Published by Jim Comstock, 1976. 50 volumes.

Sources for more localized information are the printed histories of West Virginia's counties, regions, and communities, which normally include biographical and genealogical data for many of its residents, past and present. Such local histories have been published in West Virginia since the 1870's. The most complete listing of published local histories, state histories, and biographies, including books, pamphlets, and articles, is:

Harold M. Forbes. *West Virginia History: A Bibliography and Guide to Research*. Morgantown, West Virginia University Press, 1981.

The Regional History Collection contains *all* the publications listed in this guide. The card catalog in the Byrd Reading Room in Colson Hall includes those books and pamphlets which have been added to the Collection since the publication of this bibliography. The card catalog includes author, title, and subject entries for all books and journals in the Collections. Books are cataloged and arranged according to the Dewey Decimal System. A separate section of the card catalog is devoted to the collection of West Virginia pamphlets, which are cataloged by author and subject matter.

Various genealogical periodicals with a state, regional, or county focus also provide useful information. The monthly publication *Virginia Genealogist* provides coverage of both Virginia and West Virginia. Most local historical and genealogical societies regularly issue some type of publication.

### Family Histories

Genealogists have already published genealogical charts or family histories for many West Virginia families. Such books can readily be identified by looking for the family name in the subject index of the card catalog of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection.

In addition, extensive listings of the published histories of many West Virginia and Virginia families can be found in the following guides:

Stuart E. Brown. *Virginia Genealogies: A Trial List of Printed Books and Pamphlets*. Berryville, Va., Virginia Book Company, 1967-1980. 2 volumes.

Robert A. Stewart. *Index to Printed Virginia Genealogies*. Richmond, Old Dominion Press, 1930. Reprinted: Baltimore, Genealogical Book Company, 1970.

Useful data concerning people, places, and events in

Virginia's and West Virginia's history can be located through this extremely detailed index:

Earl Gregg Swem. *Virginia Historical Index*. Roanoke, Va. 1934-36. 2 volumes. Reprinted in 1965. A comprehensive index through 1930 to *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, *William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine*, and other historical publications.

### Compilations of Genealogical Data

Printed volumes of various types of records, such as marriages, births, deaths, cemetery readings, estate settlements, census listings, and census indexes are available for most counties. Hundreds of West Virginia churches have published histories or directories. Church and synagogue histories frequently include membership rolls, vital statistics, and biographies of clergy. Congregational directories often contain identified photographs of families. High school yearbooks, college yearbooks, and alumni publications usually provide some biographical information along with a photograph.

City directories, available for about two dozen of the largest West Virginia towns, provide complete listings of citizens with their place of residence and type of employment. Wheeling, Martinsburg, and Charleston had directories as early as the 1870s. Directories from other cities began to appear in the 1890s and early 1900s. State gazetteers, published from 1875 to 1924, include comprehensive listings of businessmen involved in every sort of enterprise in towns large and small.

Immigration records provide data on the place and date of the entry of people into the United States. A useful source with which to begin a search is *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: A Guide to Published Arrival Records*... Detroit, Mich., Gale Research Co., 1981. The 1981 edition comprised 3 volumes and supplements have been issued annually since 1982. Land transactions also provide evidence of an ancestor's location. A comprehensive published guide to pre-1900 land records from West Virginia's counties is *Sims Index to Land Grants in West Virginia*, Charleston, State Auditor, 1952.

### Military Records

For information concerning the participation of West Virginians in all military conflicts involving Americans, consult the following:

Virgil A. Lewis. "The Soldiery of West Virginia." *West Virginia Department of Archives and History, Third Biennial Report (1908/1910)* Reprinted: Baltimore, 1967 and 1972.

*The Soldiery of West Virginia*. Richmond [i.e. Richwood], W. Va., Jim Comstock, 1974.

The following are among the available sources listing West Virginians who participated in military service.

#### American Revolutionary War

H. J. Eckenrode. *List of the Revolutionary Soldiers of Virginia*. (Virginia State Library. Annual Reports 1910/11 and 1911/12)

John H. Gwathmey. *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution, 1775-1783*. Richmond, Dietz Press, 1938. Reprinted: Baltimore, 1973.

Ross B. Johnston. *West Virginians in the American Revolution*. Parkersburg, 1959. Reprinted: Baltimore, 1977.

Lucy Kate McGhee. *Virginia Pension Abstracts of the Wars of the Revolution, 1812, and Indian Wars*. Washington, D.C., 1957-1966. 35 volumes.

#### War of 1812

*Pay Rolls of the Virginia Militia Entitled to Land Bounty Under the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850*. Richmond, 1851.

*Muster Rolls of the Virginia Militia in the War of 1812, Being a Supplement to the Pay Rolls*. Richmond, 1852.

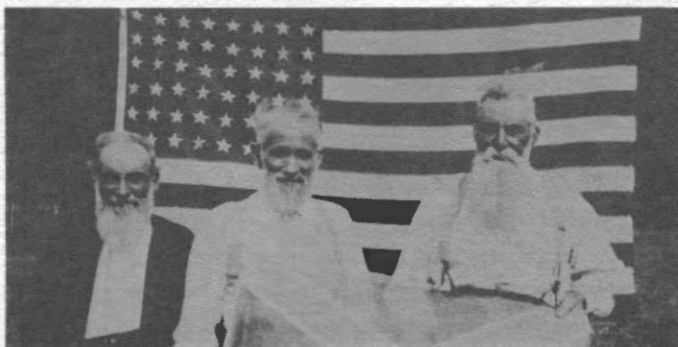
Lucy Kate McGhee. *Virginia Pension Abstracts of the Wars of the Revolution, 1812, and Indian Wars*. Washington, D.C., 1957-1966. 35 volumes.

#### Mexican War

*Muster Rolls of the Virginia Militia in the War of 1812, Being a Supplement to the Pay Rolls*. Richmond, 1852. Pages 57 to 78 are rosters of companies in the Mexican War.

#### Civil War

Charles Shetler. *West Virginia Civil War Literature: An Annotated Bibliography*. Morgantown, West Virginia University Library, 1963. Includes citations to rosters found in county histories and regimental histories.



Civil War veterans George, Ike and Ben Hammer of Pendleton County, ca. 1925.



West Virginia. Adjutant General's Office. *Annual Reports for 1864 and 1865*. Includes rosters of all Union units formed in West Virginia.

United States Bureau of the Census. *Special Schedules Enumerating Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1890*. On microfilm from the National Archives.

#### World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam

For pertinent sources, consult Harold M. Forbes' *West Virginia History: A Bibliography and Guide to Research*, checking the index and the sections on "Military History" for the appropriate military conflict.

### Newspapers

Some 1500 different newspapers have been published within the state's borders since 1790. The West Virginia and Regional History Collection holds the largest group of West Virginia newspapers of any library in the nation. Most are available on microfilm. Newspapers often contain mention of local individuals and events, however, obituaries are not routinely found until the twentieth century.

Information concerning West Virginia's newspapers has been entered into the OCLC nationwide database which is accessible in most large libraries in the United States. A comprehensive published guide to the state's newspapers is being prepared by the staff of the West Virginia Newspaper Project and should be available in 1987. The follow-

ing guides are currently available to help identify and locate West Virginia newspapers:

Delf Norona and Charles Shetler. *West Virginia Imprints, 1790-1863: A Checklist of Books, Newspapers, Periodicals, and Broadside*s. Moundsville, West Virginia Library Association, 1958.

Barbara Mertins. *Newspapers in the West Virginia University Library*. Morgantown, West Virginia University Library, 1973.

Newspaper indexes are naturally useful for the genealogical researcher, and the following are available at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection:

Melissa Harker Bishop. *An Index to the Press of Clarksburg, West Virginia, 1810-1825*. Morgantown, 1974.

Robert A. Hodge. *An Index for the Martinsburgh Gazette, Martinsburg (West) Virginia, 1810//1855*. Fredericksburg, Va., 1973-74. 6 volumes.

Robert F. Munn. *Index to the Press of the Kanawha Valley, 1855-1865*. Morgantown, 1963.

Darby H. Shafer. *An Index to the Press of Mannington, W. Va. 1890-1899*. [Morgantown?] 1973.

*Charleston Newspaper Index, 1973-1984*. Charleston, West Virginia Library Commission, Reference Library.



Assorted mastheads from West Virginia newspapers of the past.



## Geography, Maps, Place Names

Sources for maps include state atlases, history books, and collections of individual maps such as maintained at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. In addition to a number of atlases for individual counties or regions of the state, local histories frequently include useful maps. Atlases of West Virginia provide a good place to start in the search for specific counties, towns, magisterial districts, mountains, rivers, and other geographical locations:

*New Descriptive Atlas of West Virginia. Contains a Separate Map of the State and Each of Its Fifty-Five Counties.* Clarksburg, Clarksburg Publishing Co., 1933.

West Virginia Department of Highways. Advanced Planning Division. *General Highway County Maps, West Virginia.* Charleston, 1985.

*White's New County and District Atlas of the State of West Virginia.* Philadelphia, S. A. Mitchell, 1873.

Information on geographic locations may also be found in gazetteers, place name directories, history books, and post office directories, including the following:

Henry Gannett. *A Gazetteer of West Virginia.* Washington, 1904. (United States Geological Survey. Bulletin no. 233) Reprinted in: *A Gazetteer of Virginia and West Virginia.* Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., 1975.

Quinith Janssen and William Fernbach. *West Virginia Place Names.* Shepherdstown, W. Va., J and F Enterprises, 1984.

Hamill Kenny. *West Virginia Place Names, Their Origin and Meaning, Including the Nomenclature of the Streams and Mountains.* Piedmont, W. Va., The Place Name Press, 1945. Reprinted: Morgantown, West Virginia University Library, 1960.

*United States Official Postal Guides*

*West Virginia Geographic Names; Prepared from a Computer File by Branch of Geographic Names.* Reston, Va., U.S.G.S. Topographic Division, Office of Research and Technical Standards, 1981. 2 volumes.

The following is a complete guide to boundary changes and county formations, with legal descriptions and detailed maps:

Edgar B. Sims. *Making a State; Formation of West Virginia, Including Maps, Illustrations, Plats, Grants, and the Acts of the Virginia Assembly and the Legislature of West Virginia Creating the Counties.* Charleston, State of West Virginia, 1956.

WEST VIRGINIA  
HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
DIVISION OF STATE AND LOCAL HISTORICAL RECORDS  
HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
THE VOLUMES FORM  
County: Monroe City or town: Morgantown  
Agency or department: OHIO COUNTY RECORDS  
Name: County Records  
1. Place city: County Records, Book of  
Identification, Maps  
2. Date, title, volume, and volume containing or relating to page  
County Records, 1860  
3. Missing volumes by number and date: None  
4. Brief description of material: summary of these records, and general remarks  
Summary of records of identification  
5. Indexing: None  
6. Nature of material by page: County Records

A page from the Historical Records Survey for Ohio Co.

## MANUSCRIPTS AND ARCHIVES

### Family Records

The West Virginia and Regional History Collection holds numerous manuscripts and archives that are invaluable for genealogical research. Included among these are many unpublished family histories and genealogies. In order to determine what families are represented here, consult the most current edition of the *Guide to Manuscripts and Archives in the West Virginia Collection*. Look for the family name in the index, refer to the entry numbers given,

and refer to the manuscript collection cited. In addition to manuscripts pertaining to specific families, there are several large collections containing material on many families as well as significant compilations of basic genealogical data, such as cemetery readings or marriage lists. The most prominent of these collections were compiled by Margaret Ballard, Thomas Ray Dille, Joseph C. Jefferds, Mary McKendree Johnson, Joseph M. Kellogg, Frederick B. Lambert, Minnie Kendall Lowther, Minnie McWhorter, and W. Guy Tetrick.

## County Records

Eighteenth and nineteenth century records from most counties have been preserved on microfilm or in original form at the Regional History Collection. These records include a wide variety of loose court case papers and various record books. General descriptions of the type of documents available for each county are found in the current edition of the *Guide to Manuscripts and Archives in the West Virginia Collection*. More detailed inventories of many county archives are available upon request. In addition, detailed personal name indexes are available for court case papers from the counties of Brooke, Fayette, Hampshire, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Mason, Monongalia, Morgan, Ohio, Tucker, and Wood.

Records of births and deaths before 1853 are virtually nonexistent, since no law required them to be officially recorded. Before that time, Bible records and church registers are occasionally available. Early marriages can be found in county court records as well as ministers lists and church registers. However, marriage records seldom provide more information than the names of the bride and groom, the name of the security, and the date of the bond. The ages of the couple, the names of their parents, and the exact date of the marriage are rarely recorded. An act of the 1853 Virginia legislature required the recording of vital statistics by the county courts, and many of these records have survived.

The most extensive compilation of vital records is the Historical Records Survey of the Work Projects Administration, which includes transcriptions of births, marriages, deaths, and wills available in each county, cemetery readings for many counties, and inventories of available county, municipal, and church records. In transcribing these records, a cut off date of 1900 was used in virtually every instance.

## Census Records

The federal census has been taken every ten years since 1790, but the 1790 and 1800 returns for Virginia have not survived. A substitute for the 1790 census was constructed from the 1782-1785 state tax enumerations of the following counties now part of West Virginia: Greenbrier, Hampshire, Harrison, and Monongalia. These were published as part of:

United States Bureau of the Census. *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790—Records of the State Enumerations: 1782-1785, Virginia*. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1908. Reprinted: Baltimore, 1966; Bountiful, Utah, 1978.

Augusta, Berkeley, and Hardy counties were subsequently

covered in the following book:

Augusta B. Fothergill. *Virginia Tax Payers, 1782-1787*. Privately printed, 1940. Reprinted: Baltimore, 1966.

Federal census returns for Virginia from 1810 through 1860 and for West Virginia from 1870 to 1910 are available on microfilm. Indexes for all counties from 1810 through 1850, and for selected counties from 1860 to 1880 are available in printed form. Indexes on microfilm are available for the 1880, 1900, and 1910 census returns. Most of the 1890 census was destroyed, and only the special census of Civil War veterans and widows survives for that enumeration.

Census returns through 1840 include only the name of the head of the household and the number of other family members, which are enumerated according to sex and age groups. Beginning with 1850, the name of each person in the household is recorded with his or her age, race, sex, and state of birth.



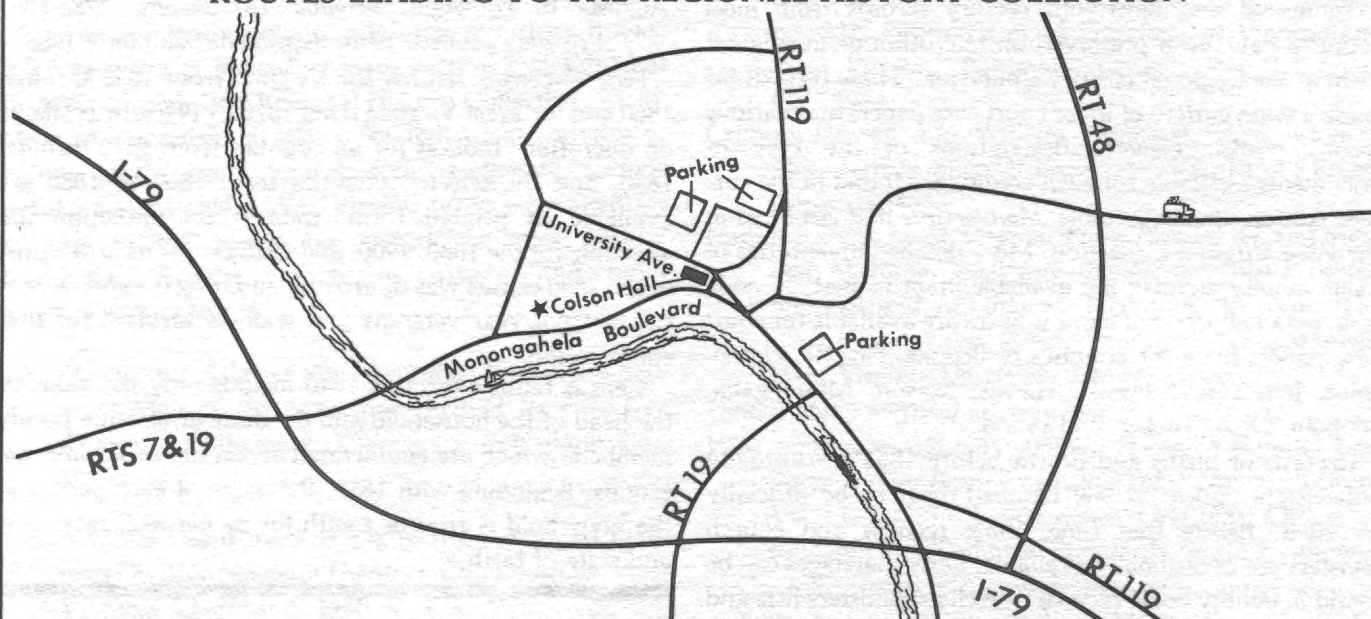
The Bayles Family, Monongalia County, ca. 1890.

## Church Records

The types of church records and the information they contain vary greatly from church to church and from denomination to denomination. Potentially useful West Virginia church records date from the 1700s and represent Episcopal, Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Disciples of Christ (Christian), Brethren, and Jewish congregations. Some churches kept records of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and current members, but many recorded only business meetings and financial affairs. Available records can be located by consulting the latest edition of the *Guide to Manuscripts and Archives in the West Virginia Collection* and the listings of published church histories in Forbes' *West Virginia History: A Bibliography and Guide to Research*.



## ROUTES LEADING TO THE REGIONAL HISTORY COLLECTION



*Located in Colson Hall on the West Virginia University Downtown Campus, The West Virginia and Regional History Collection is open from 8:00-5:00 on weekdays and from 9:00-5:00 on Saturday. Hours are 9:00-5:00 on weekdays and from 9:00-12:00 on Saturday when University classes are not in session during mid-May, mid-August and late December.*

## An Invitation to Join the WEST VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

In order to foster the Regional History Collection's work in preserving and disseminating historical information pertaining to West Virginia and the central Appalachian region, the West Virginia and Regional History Association was conceived in the summer of 1985.

The association's foremost goal is to develop a network of communication between institutions and individuals throughout the state and across the nation who share an interest in West Virginia history whether it be in genealogy, the Civil War, folklore or any other topic.

Through the West Virginia Collection's triannual *NEWSLETTER*, members will learn about historical projects and activities at the Collection and around the state. New research resources will be announced as they become available, and articles on West Virginia history and historical preservation will keep readers well informed.

Members will upon request receive free brochures regarding the holdings of the West Virginia Collection pertaining to a variety of special topics. They will also be first to receive announcements of new Collection publications.

Above all, members will have the satisfaction of participating in the important work of documenting and promoting the study of West Virginia's intriguing past.

The cost of membership has been placed low — \$10. annually — to encourage broad participation. Those who would like to assume a larger role in furthering the Association's goals are urged to join at the donor (\$50.), patron (\$100.), or life member (\$500.) level. As a special premium, upper level members will receive complimentary copies of selected West Virginia Collection publications — guides, recordings — and will have the opportunity to purchase others at cost. Regardless of level, however, all members will receive Collection publications at a discount whenever possible.

To join, simply send your check to the West Virginia Collection, Colson Hall, Morgantown, WV 26506.

*\*Checks should be made payable to the West Virginia University Foundation*

## Visiting Committee West Virginia and Regional History Collection

John Stealey III — Chairman, *Shepherdstown*  
 William Adler, *Weston*  
 Robert Conte, *White Sulphur Springs*  
 Charles Daugherty, *Institute*  
 Dorothy Davis, *Salem*  
 William Dickson, *Ronceverte*  
 Florena E. Duling, *Scherr*  
 Beverly Fluty, *Wheeling*  
 Helen S. Gerwig, *Parkersburg*  
 Daniel Gooding, *Morgantown*

Beth Hager, *Huntington*  
 J. C. Jefferds, *Charleston*  
 Holly Hoover, *Wheeling*  
 Vaughn Kiger, *Morgantown*  
 Ronald Lewis, *Morgantown*  
 Margaret Little, *Morgantown*  
 Brooks McCabe, *Charleston*  
 Susan Maxwell, *Clarksburg*  
 Fred Newbraugh, *Berkeley Springs*  
 Otis Rice, *Montgomery*

### Selected Accessions List

**Anderegg, Jacob. Papers.** 3 items. Gift, 1986. A&M 3009.

This collection contains a pamphlet, correspondence, a typed copy, and the original oral account of Jacob Anderegg's life story, "Some Recollections from the life of Jacob Anderegg." Anderegg, born in Switzerland, 12 July 1851, immigrated to the United States on 16 September 1871, and became a settler of Helvetia, West Virginia.



*A trio of hunters from Helvetia, West Virginia, ca. 1915.*

**Archer, John. Letters, 1786.** 2 leaves. Acquired, 1986. A&M 794.

This collection consists of two letters signed by John Archer. One of the letters is not dated and the other letter is dated 19 August 1786. The letters relate to the quality of 2 tracts of land, each 4000 acres, on the waters of the Gauley River, Greenbrier County, Virginia. The surveys, which were conducted by John Archer, were requested by Adonijah Matthews and William Morrow.

**Monroe County Court Record Books. Court Record Volumes, ca.1799-1921.** Loaned for microfilming, 1986. A&M 2403Micro.

Monroe County Court Record Books of land surveys, birth, marriages and deaths. Significantly, these volumes contain deed surveys (1799-1815) from a part of West Virginia that contained early frontier settlements. Also included are registers of births (1853-1917) and deaths (1853-1921) as well as record books of marriages (1850-1919) and wills (1864-1868).

**Nicholas County. Record Book of Surveys. Papers, 1819-1836.** 4 pages. Acquired, 1986. A&M 786.

A record book of surveys for Nicholas County, Virginia, 1819-1836. The book contains a list of names for whom the surveys were made.

**Nova Virginia Tabula.** Amsterdam: Willem G. Blaeu, 1630. Acquired, 1985.

Map of Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay area published in 1630 by Willem Blaeu from a plate engraved by Dutch cartographer Jodocus Hondius. The engraving was based on an earlier English engraving by William Hole which stemmed directly from manuscript charts and data from the explorations of Captain John Smith. Based upon the earliest of nine European derivative's of Smith's map, the Hondius-Blaeu map is credited with shaping the cartographic conception of Virginia for seventeenth-century continental Europe.





*Interior and exterior of Premier Company Store, Pocahontas Collieries Co.*

**Pocahontas Coal Camp. Photographs, ca.1910. Acquired, 1986.**

Six photographs of company store and mining town of Pocahontas, Virginia.

**Randolph, Beverley. Papers, 1787. 1 item. Acquired, 1986. A&M 783.**

Original land deed signed by Beverley Randolph, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, 9 July 1787. The Deed designates four thousand acres, in Greenbrier County, Virginia, on the waters of the Gauley River to Jeremiah Warder, Jeremiah Parker and Richard Parker. The original seal of Virginia is inscribed on this deed. Original date of deed is 28 November 1781.

**Virginia Lands. Map, ca.1800. 1 item. Acquired, 1986.**

An unsigned, undated manuscript map showing location of four tracts of land situated in Nicholas County, Virginia, originally surveyed in 1786, platted 1787. The tracts, totaling 16,000 acres, are drafted to be surveyed. In addition to a chart showing distances to Charleston, Lewisburg and other locations the map shows dwellings and names of the area's inhabitants, rivers and main routes.

**Welch, Alex. Papers, 1786-1801. 14 items. Acquired, 1986. A&M 832.**

This collection includes several papers of Alex Welch's survey business, 1786-1801. Surveys were done for William Hunter Cavendish, Adonijah Matthews, Warer, Parker and Company and William Morrow. The geographical locations include several places in Greenbrier and Kanawha counties in Virginia.

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*Native inhabitant of the Chesapeake. See page 1.*